

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

*Please amend claims 3-7, 11, 13-17, 21-23, 25-27, 29-35 and add new claim 36.*

1. (Original) An apparatus for controlling flow in a flowline under pressure, said apparatus comprising

- a flow passage having a first end and a second end, and
- hindering means for reducing the flow in the flow passage, the hindering means being arranged to move between a first and a second position under influence of a pressure difference between the first end and the second end of the flow passage,

wherein the reduction of the flow in the flow passage is larger when the hindering means is in the first and second position than when the hindering means is in an intermediate position between said first and second positions.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the hindering means is positioned in the first position when the pressure in the second end is higher than the pressure in the first end.

3. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the hindering means is positioned in the second position when the pressure in the first end is higher than the pressure in the second end.

4. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the hindering means is positioned in the first position when the pressure difference between the second end and the first end is higher than a first predetermined closing value.

5. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~or~~ 3, wherein the hindering means is positioned in the second position when the pressure difference between the first end and the second end is higher than a second predetermined closing value.

6. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to claims ~~4 and 5~~ 1 wherein the hindering means is positioned in the first position when the pressure difference between the second end and the first end is higher than a first predetermined closing value, and the hindering means is positioned in the second position when the pressure difference between the first end and the second end is higher than a second predetermined closing value, and wherein the first predetermined closing value is substantially equal to the second predetermined closing value.
7. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ 1, further comprising biasing means adapted to bias the hindering means towards a predetermined position.
8. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined position is a position between the first position and the second position.
9. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined position is identical to the first position.
10. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined position is identical to the second position.
11. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 7-10, wherein the biasing means is adjustable so as to change a biasing force, ~~and/or the predetermined position~~ or the biasing force and the predetermined position.
12. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising an electrical adjustable element adapted to change the biasing force.
13. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 11-12, wherein the biasing force ~~and/or is~~ is, the predetermined position is, or the biasing force and the predetermined position are is adjusted dependent on a temperature.

14. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 11-13, wherein the biasing force ~~and/or is~~, the predetermined position is, or the biasing force and the predetermined position are adjusted dependent on pressure.
15. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 11-14, wherein the biasing force ~~and/or is~~, the predetermined position is, or the biasing force and the predetermined position are adjusted dependent on fluid properties.
16. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 7-15, wherein the biasing means is a spring.
17. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the first and the second position are provided with contact surfaces adapted to collaborate with corresponding contact surfaces of the hindering means so as to provide a substantially tight seal when the hindering means is positioned in the first and the second position, respectively.
18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein at least a part of at least one contact surface comprises a sealing member.
19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the sealing member comprises a resilient material.
20. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the sealing member comprises a ceramic material.
21. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the effective cross-sectional area of the flow passage is 800%, 700%, 600%, 500%, 400%, 300%, 200% or 100% larger when the hindering means is in an intermediate position than when the hindering means is in the first position, ~~and/or the second position~~ or in the first position and the second position, ~~such as 700% larger, such as 600% larger, such as 500% larger, such as 400% larger, such as 300% larger, such as 200% larger, such as 100% larger.~~

22. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 1-24, wherein the hindering means is adapted to slide between the first and the second position.
23. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of~~ claims 1-22, wherein the hindering means is adapted to rotate between the first and the second position.
24. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein at least a part of the hindering means is pivotally connected to the apparatus.
25. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, further comprising a leaking passage adapted to provide a flow channel between the first end and the second end, when the hindering means is positioned in the first position, ~~and/or the second position,~~ or in the first position and the second position.
26. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 25, wherein the leaking passage is provided in the hindering means.
27. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, further comprising at least one pressure indicator adapted to indicate the pressure in at least a part of the flow passage.
28. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the apparatus comprises at least one pressure indicator adapted to indicate pressure in the first end and at least one pressure indicator adapted to indicate pressure in the second end.
29. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein at least a part of the flow passage comprises a transparent material, so as to allow visual inspection of ~~the a fluid,~~ and/or the position of the hindering means or of the fluid and the hindering means.
30. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, further comprising means for locking the hindering means in the first position, ~~and/or the second position,~~ and/or an intermediate position, the first position and the second position, the first position and the intermediate position or in the first position, the second position and the intermediate position.

31. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, further comprising a three step valve adapted to be positioned in

- a blocking position wherein the flow passage is blocked,
- an open position wherein a fluid may flow freely in the flow passage, ~~and~~ or
- an operating position wherein the flow passage is open and closed dependent on a flow difference between the first end and the second end.

32. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the apparatus comprises a metallic material selected from the group consisting of iron, steel, aluminium, magnesium, titanium, copper, brass, nickel, zinc, tin, lead, chrome, wolfram, bronze, gold, silver and platinum.

33. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims claim 1, wherein the apparatus comprises a plastic material, ~~and/or~~ a composite material, ~~and/or~~ a fibre material, or a combination thereof.

34. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the apparatus comprises locking means adapted to lock a connector in a locking position, the connector being a connecting element of a flow line.

35. **(Currently Amended)** A tap comprising any feature or aspect according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claims 1.

36. **(New)** An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the effective cross-sectional area of the flow passage is at least 800%, at least 700%, at least 600%, at least 500%, at least 400%, at least 300%, at least 200% or at least 100% larger when the hindering means is in an intermediate position than when the hindering means is in the first position, the second position or in the first position and the second position.